

CLAIMS:

1. A bill handling machine for handling bills, comprising:

a money receiving/paying section for receiving and paying bills;

a plurality of bill storing boxes for storing bills received from said money receiving/paying section or bills to be paid from said money receiving/paying section;

a transport path for linking said money receiving/paying section to said storing boxes and for transporting bills; and
a control section, wherein

said storing boxes respectively include pushing plates to push bills stored therein and

said control section drives said pushing plate of each said storing box to detect an amount of bills stored therein.

2. A bill handling machine according to claim 1, further comprising a few-bill detecting section to detect a state of said storing box in which said storing box contains a small amount of bills, wherein

when said few-bill detecting section detects said pushing plate of said storing box, said control section reports an amount of bills according to bills remaining in said storing box.

3. A bill handling machine according to claim 1, further comprising a full-bill detecting section to

detect a state of said storing box in which said storing box is full of bills, wherein

when said full-bill detecting section detects said pushing plate of said storing box, said control section reports an amount of bills according to the state in which said storing box is full of bills.

4. A bill handling machine according to claim 1, further comprising:

a few-bill detecting section to detect a state of said storing box in which said storing box contains a small amount of bills; and

a full-bill detecting section to detect a state of said storing box in which said storing box is full of bills, wherein

when neither said few-bill detecting section and nor said full-bill detecting section detects said pushing plate of said storing box, said control section adds an amount of bills according to a small amount of bills to an amount of bills according to the state in which said storing box is full of bills to obtain a sum of the amounts and divides the sum by two to report a result of the division as an amount of bills.

5. A bill handling machine according to claim 1, further comprising a storing box detecting section for detecting a state in which said storing boxes are already set to said bill handling machine.

6. A bill handling machine according to claim 5, wherein when said storing box detecting section detects

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an event that said storing box is again set to the bill handling machine, said control section stores the event that said storing box is again set to the bill handling machine and acquires storing box information uniquely assigned to said storing boxes.

7. A bill handling machine according to claim 6, wherein said control section determines whether or not the storing box information acquired from said storing box includes the number of bills.

8. A bill handling machine according to claim 7, when the storing box information acquired from said storing box does not include the number of bills, said control section displays a message indicating that the number of bills is not inputted.

9. A bill handling machine according to claim 7, wherein said control section compares the number of bills thus inputted and acquired from said storing box with the amount of bills obtained by driving said pushing plate.

10. A bill handling machine according to claim 9, wherein when a result of the comparison is within a predetermined range, said control section updates the amount of bills stored in said storing box to the number of bills acquired from said storing box.

11. A bill handling machine according to claim 9, wherein when a result of the comparison is beyond a predetermined range, said control section displays an instruction to input again the number of bills to be

acquired from said storing box.

12. A bill handling machine according to claim 1, wherein in response to an event that part of or all of said storing boxes are re-set to said bill handling machine, said control section acquires, from each said storing box, identifier information identifying said storing box and determines whether or not the identifier information matches information beforehand registered to said storing box.

13. A bill handling machine according to claim 12, wherein the identifier information acquired from said storing box by said control section includes type information indicating a type of said storing box or bill-type information indicating a type of bills stored in said storing box.

14. A bill handling machine, comprising:
a money receiving/paying unit for receiving or for ejecting a bill;
a judge section for determining a bill received from said money receiving/paying unit;
a temporary storing section for temporarily storing the bill determined by said judge section;
a plurality of storing boxes for storing bills received from said money receiving/paying unit or bills to be paid from said money receiving/paying unit;
and
a control section for controlling a pushing section disposed in said storing box to push bills and

thereby calculating an amount of bills stored in said storing box.

15. A bill handling machine according to claim 14, wherein said pushing section of said storing box comprises a pushing plate which travels in a forward direction and in a reverse direction in said storing box to depress bills stored in said storing box.

16. A bill handling machine according to claim 14, wherein said control section acquires a number of bills inputted from said storing box and compares the number of bills with the amount of bills calculated before by using said pushing section.

17. A bill handling machine according to claim 16, wherein when said control section determines that a result of the comparison is within a predetermined range, said control section updates the number of bills in said storing box to the number of bills acquired from said storing box.

18. A bill handling method for use with a bill handling machine for handling bills, comprising the following steps of:

confirming a state in which a door of the bill handling machine is closed;

confirming a state in which storing boxes to store bills are set to the bill handling machine;

acquiring a number of bills inputted from each of the storing boxes;

calculating an amount of bills stored in

each said storing box; and

comparing the number of bills acquired by said acquiring step with the number of bills calculated by said calculating step.

19. A bill handling method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of updating, when a result of the comparison is within a predetermined range, a balance of said each storing box to the number of bills acquired by said acquiring step.

20. A bill handling method according to claim 18, wherein said step of calculating the amount of bills further comprising the steps of:

driving a pushing plate disposed in said each storing box in a forward direction of said storing box;

detecting a pressure of the bills stored in said each storing box;

driving the pushing plate in a reverse direction of said each storing box;

detecting release of the pushing of the bills; and

detecting a position of the pushing plate.

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